



News Release

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Contact: Media inquiries: Communications Office
Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service

360-236-4074
360-236-4700

State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In September 2011 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **John E. Vitkauskas** (LP60107036) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to either administer or document administration of medications to patients.

Clallam County

In September 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program amended the statement of charges against registered nursing assistant **Laurie M. Morehead** (NA00159879). Allegations include accepting monetary gifts from a patient, entering into an inappropriate relationship with a patient, transporting the patient to her house where the patient fell and lacerated his elbow, failing to notify the patient's primary care doctor of the wound, supplied wound care herself, and telling the patient she can do more for him than a doctor. The wound resulted in patient death. She was charged with manslaughter, and criminal mistreatment. She was also convicted of negligent driving.

Grays Harbor County

In October 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Sherman Daniel Hatley, Jr.** (CO60240115) and placed his registration on probation for two years. He was convicted of malicious mischief,

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assault — domestic violence, interfering with the reporting of domestic violence, violation of restraining or protection order, assault on more than one occasion, violation of no contact order, violation of the Uniform Substance Control Act — possession of methamphetamine, violation of a restraining order, and felony no contact order violation. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

King County

In September 2011 after a hearing, the Health Care Assistant Program denied the application of **Elizabeth M. Andre-Siefner** (HC60175582). While working in a health care setting but not as a health care professional, she called in seven requests for vicodin prescriptions without authorization to do so, gave the prescriptions to a friend, and was convicted of solicitation—hydrocodone. She also failed to disclose the conviction on her application or to the employer listed on her application.

In September 2011 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of registered nurse **Anna-Mari J. Balagot** (RN00103775) and placed her license on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In September 2011 the Board of Pharmacy granted the application of pharmacist **Richard Paul Cole** (PH60223078) and placed his license on probation until May 2012. In 2007 his credentials to practice as a pharmacy assistant and intern were suspended. In October 2008 his credentials were reinstated and placed on probation for five years. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In September 2011 the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Program ended probation of licensed marriage and family therapist **Brian Desroches** (LF00001459).

In September 2011 the Respiratory Care Practitioner Program granted the application of **Robert Dean Kearn** (LR60238303) and placed his license on probation for two years. He was convicted of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and wanton endangerment. He surrendered his license to practice as a respiratory care practitioner in Kentucky. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In October 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Stephanie M. Stahl** (NA00182305) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly stole at least \$350 from a patient when she was helping the patient with financial records and cashing checks.

Kitsap County

In October 2011 the Medical Commission modified the agreed order against physician **Julie A. McMillan** (MD00041147). She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Pierce County

In September 2011 the Denturist Program released **David W. Kirk** (DN00000124) from conditions set against his license.

In September 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered and certified nursing assistant **Christina Lynn Smith** (NA00201782, NC60064005) with unprofessional conduct. She was criminally charged with unlawful possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, and allegedly failed to respond to Department of Health inquiries about the circumstances surrounding the charge.

Snohomish County

In September 2011 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Sam Oh** (DE00010691) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly diverted or wrote prescriptions for legend drugs or controlled substances for his own use.

In September 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Carol Ann Schreck** (RN00110142) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to notify a patient's family or physician of a change in condition of an open wound, which resulted in an infection.

In October 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program reinstated the license of **Rebecca M. Sundmo** (HC00151860) and placed her license on terminated status because she doesn't have a supervisor or delegator, required by law.

In April 2011 the Nursing Commission withdrew charges against registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Patricia J. Murphy** (RN00071430, AP30006408).

Spokane County

In September 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended the probation order against chemical dependency professional trainee **Pamela Jo Moon** (CO60163900).

In October 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Shad Burnett St. Paul** (CO60237149) and placed his registration on probation for two years. He was convicted of one misdemeanor, three gross misdemeanors, and three felonies, including malicious mischief and burglary before 1999. After 1999 he was convicted of possession of a controlled substance — Lortab, negligent driving, and conspiracy to distribute cocaine and methamphetamine. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

In September 2011 the Nursing Commission ended the probation order against licensed practical nurse **Lorri A. Wesolowski** (LP00031171).

Thurston County

In September 2011 the Massage Program charged **Robert Scott Florek** (MA60179307) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly touched a patient inappropriately during massage sessions.

In September 2011 the Board of Pharmacy charged pharmacist **John W. Pemberton** (PH00017890) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly received and filled prescriptions for patients from an Internet service.

Whatcom County

In September 2011 the Nursing Commission released registered nurse **Ellen L. Shark** (RN00146098) from conditions set against her license.

Yakima County

In October 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program released chemical dependency professional trainee **Sheryl Lynn Emerson** (CO60166483) from conditions set against her registration.

Out of State

Colorado: In September 2011 the Medical Commission entered into an agreed order with physician **Yaron J. Lidor** (MD00048575) who agreed not to renew his expired license. He entered into an inappropriate relationship with a patient.

Michigan: In January 2011 the Medical Commission denied the application of physician applicant **Asad Raza** (MD60167544). He failed to disclose on his application that he entered into a voluntary contract with the Iowa Board of Medicine due to a complaint that he sent inappropriate e-mails to former medical classmates and a former colleague.

New York: In October 2011 the Nursing Commission withdrew charge against registered nurse **Rio Blanca P. Dalid** (RN60084174).

Oregon: In October 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program released certified nursing assistant **Frances Jeanne Alvarez** (NA60041168) from conditions set against her certification.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).